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## DECLARATIONS OF

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Welcome back Transfans!

Plenty of good questions and eager eagle-eyed readers giving their two cents this month:

Hi Dreamwaye,

After the third Wor Within will it become monthly organia?

100

Birmingham, AL

For now, Wor Within will remain an annual miniseries. By keeping it down to six issues a year, we can guarantee each volume is fresh and exciting. It's not just a thrill for the fans when the new volume is announced, but for oil the creators and staff at DW too—it's our favorite "prequel" ever!

However, that being said, it's definitely tempting to consider making it an angoing—there are a lot of Transformer stories waiting to be told.

HI Dragmwove.

The sum of the various members of the factions listed above equals a grand total of 88 Transformers—compared to the 350 or more Transformers that are available in the Transformer Universe.

The Great War has been going on for a long, long time and I'm expected to believe that characters like Outback, Swerre and the aforementioned Bumper have just been sitting around playing cards the whole time?

I always liked the idea that the total planet was at war, it was a war you couldn't escape from no matter how hard you tried. But this concept of "rookles" being introduced in GT just takes away from the wealth of characters that con be used in War Within. If these guys are just spectators at this point in time, where are they and what are they doing?

I can go with the Mini-Spies not being directly included in the war, for they have been noted for being too small and weak to be able to withstand the physical pressures of direct combat. But to believe that a (for lack of a better term) full grown Transformer is merely munchin' on Energon cubes for several million years is very ridiazious.

This has been asked before: Why aren't more characters used? Why is so-and-so always there and not such-and-such? It's true there are lots of 'bots to play with a we have not been always as many airthment we can. Essentially, remember this—it's a big planet. The faction members aren't all in one place at one time.

Helio gang,

Arthur Williams

Given the characteristic of Grimlack in the present time/ Git era and in the past from WW Volume 1 and Volume 2, I find it a little bit unconvincing that Grimlack would sacrifice himself in order to save Magnus and preserve peace. This is so not like Grimlack, I can see if it's some other bots.

So, the question is, what did Mogrus do in order to earn Grimlack's trust? Did he save Grimlack at one point? What's your speculation? in War and Peace, we saw Magnus blast Grimlock to the face, but only to repair him back.

Well I hope Furman revealed some back story regarding these two. We know Grimlack doesn't like Prime much, but he's akay with Magnus.

Reminator

Grimmy has always been a noble warrier who would prefer to go down in a blaze of glory than to not fight at all. (Sounds like another famous dinosque-bot in another TF series eh?) That Grimlock sacrificed himself is prefty much inline with any warrier's sense of honor.

Our fun-loving Brit, Mr. Simon Furmen, had this to add: "Magnus made nononsense decisions, tactical and otherwise, over the course of many years of conflict. As Magnus himself says, he 'wen the pumps and processors of even his sternest critics' "

Hi top bots.

I have been with Transformers since the beginning and have to say you guys are doing great staff for the most part. WW is a fresh start to see some of my fave bots kicking off in brand-new (old) bodies.

But I do have a few questions. I have just a couple of complaints. With stry away from beast-like forms when Cybertron has (in other continuities) all sorts of animals; the likes of the Predocons could simply be mysterious throwbacks—not to mention the fact that other worlds exist in TF mythology and it seems unlikely only Earth would possess "flors" in one form or another.

And what about Optimus Prime? It feets a bit cheap to simply make up excuses for him to be out af action, why not simply send him off on other adventures while we get to witness the adventures of different TEs rather than depict. Cybertron falling apart in the absence of prime. Sure he's the bigbot, but he's only got two arms and six tires, he con't be everywhere at once. I also wanted to say, for future WW designs please consider the likes of Arcee and Punch/CounterPunch.

Here's hoping Magnus stops magning,

Robert

The key theme and interest point to War Within for readers and creators is a Cybertron that the Transformers have had no human/

Earth influence yet. But that doesn't mean there are some animal-like alternate modes for some of the Transformers: Think about Ratbert, Ravage, and so on. Although they are not quite "Earth" animals, they are still beastly looking—but why? Well, that's not clear yet, so keep reading, Transfans...

As far as Op being out of the picture, the reasoning is exactly what you say: It gives the other characters chances to shine; which means we get to learn more about the origins of other key players in the world of Transformers.

## MATT HANSEN

Copy Editor
Dreamwaye Productions















UNLEASH THE BEAST!

THE BEAST WARS BEGIN THIS IANUARY!

You asked for it, so you got it! Dreamwave is proud to announce a six-part series based on the popular tayline by Hasbro and successful television series by Mainfrome Entertainment. The new title comes after the sellout of Dreamwave's incredible TRANSFORMERS Summer Special, when fans were asked which title they'd prefer to see in an upcoming mini-series: TRANSFORMERS BEAST WARS or TRANSFORMER'S ROBOTS IN DISGUISE. BEAST WARS onihilated the competition, taking 80% of the votel

The series, which takes place years after GENERATION ONE, follows the adventures of OPTIMUS PRIMAL and his MAXIMALS (descendants of the AUTOBOTS) versus MEGATRON and his PREDACONS (descendants of the DECEPTICONS). For such an exciting and pivotal series in the TRANSFORMERS comic continuity, Dreamwave turned to a star-studded cast of creators. Leading the charge are the TRANSFORMERS experts themselves, James McDonough and Adam Patyk, McDonough and Patyk are part of the amazing success of Dreamwave's GENERATION ONE and MICROMASTERS series, and are without a doubt the perfect writers to fill in the gaps of the BEAST WARS saga. Another well-known name will tackle the pencils: Don Figueroa. Figueroa, whose art has been attached to pretty much every Dreamwave TF title, is perfect for the lob: he's quite possibly the biggest Transfan alive. When asked what it feels like to draw the characters that spearheaded the revival of TRANSFORMERS into the mainstream, Figueroa was philosophical as always.

"The first time I saw the series, I sald, 'What is this new show?' They transform, the leaders had very familiar names and looked similar but I was so surprised to see animals as their alternate modes, not vehicles. But from the first episode I was hooked. This series was groundbreaking and it is amazing that we get to bring it to comic book form."

TRANSFORMERS BEAST WARS #1 will be hitting the shelves in January 2005 and will mark the beginning of a very special and exciting year for Dreamwave. From now until its New Year lounch, Dreamwave will be celebrating the long awaited arrival of BEAST WARS, so keep checking www.DreamwaveProd.com for more infol





TEGRMORETHAN

TF GENERATION ONE

TE WAR WITHIN

## ERNST DABEL

CURRENT/UPCOMING

PROJECTS:

NUMBER OF PANYASY MOVELS YOU READ!

FIRMEST DREAMWAYE MOMENT: first time that I not Pat Line after lowing harasted

BADDEST WARLANDS VILLAIN:

First of all, I want to say that I'm extremely honored to have been given the opportunity to write Warlands. It is something that I take very seriously, and I feel a great sense of responsibility to show a side of Warlands that fans have never seen before. To me, eating, drinking, and sleeping all take the backseat to this project—it is that important to me. So before you read through an issue, I want you to first get your chocolate chip cookies and a glass of milk and put it somewhere close as you might end up lost somewhere in the world of Warlands.

Par Lee is a man that my brothers and I have always looked up to. He has always been the guardian of Warlands and for him to entrust me with it means a lot to me. None of this would have been possible if he had not given us the green light. Thanks Pail

I also want to thank everyone else at Dreamwave who has really been very supportive of me: Roger Lee, Graham Cruz, Candice Chan, Rich Young, Chung, Matt Moylan, and Matt Hansen who asked me to do "From the Desk Of". Special thanks also to: Chuck

Sellner (Editor), Mike Raicht (Story Consultant), Ramulo Soones of Lynx Studios, Edu Francisco (Artist), Etienne St-Laurent (Colorist) and Bill Tortolini (letterer). Lastly, I want to thank my brother Les who first got me into famics y by getting me J.R.R. Tolltien's "The Hobbit" for Christmas back when I was in the sixth grade, and God for touching my mind and fingers and giving me the inspiration that I needed so that I could commit this Warlands series to paper.

> ERNST DABEL Writer, Warlands

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